Curious Utopias: Large and Small Blueprints for Human Society
Friday 6th September- Saturday 7th September 2019
University of Oslo, Georg Sverdrups hus

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Friday 6th September 2019

0830-0900: Coffee and registration for workshop participants
PLACE: MØTEROM (WORKSHOP VENUE)

0915-10.45 - KEYNOTE LECTURE by Professor James Ferguson, University of Stanford
“Rightful Shares and Claims of Presence: Distributive Politics beyond Labour and Citizenship”

10.45-11.15 COFFEE BREAK
(MØTEROM 1)

11.15-11.45 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS
On utopian impulses, scalar imaginaries, and socio-political experiments
Ruth Prince (University of Oslo)

11.45-13.15 SESSION ONE - TECHNO-UTOPIAS
Chair: Richard Rottenburg (WITS Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of the Witwatersrand)

Knowledge/Seizure. Data, Debt, & the Zero Balance Economy
Kevin P. Donovan (University of Edinburgh) and Emma Park (New School for Social Research)

Leapfrogging all the way to utopia: New digital technologies and the public good in Africa
Thomas Neumark (University of Oslo)

Liz Fouksman (University of Oxford)

DISCUSSION

13.15-1415: LUNCH
**1415-1545 SESSION TWO - DATA, DEVICES, DESIGNS**
Chair: Katerini Storeng (University of Oslo)

**Shacktopia: The Meantime Future of Humanitarian Design**
Peter Redfield (University of North Caroline, Chapel Hill)

**Policy as Experiment. Towards an analysis of the role of critique and feedback loops for iterative learning**
Ursula Rao (University of Leipzig)

**The diagnostic gap: devices/networks/coverage**
Alice Street (University of Edinburgh)

**DISCUSSION**

15.45-1615: COFFEE

**16.15-1730: SESSION THREE - ECOLOGIES/BIOLOGIES**
Chair: Knut Nustad (University of Oslo)

**The Nectar of Life: Agrarian ferments and the utopian impulse of Natural Farming (India)**
Daniel Münster (University of Cologne/University of Heidelberg)

**Immunitary Utopias and Hepatitis B Environments**
Noémi Tousignant (University College London)

**DISCUSSION**

1900: Dinner
### Saturday 7th September 2019

#### 09.30-12.00: SESSION FOUR – CITIZENSHIP
Chair: Ursula Münster, University of Oslo

"Financialisation without welfare, Identification without citizenship: biometric programmes in contemporary Nigeria."
Keith Breckenridge (University of Witwatersrand)

**The Utopia of Global Citizenship: Selling passports in Cyprus**
Theodoros Rakopoulos (University of Oslo)

Coffee break

**Hopeful living: citizenship, resilience and the crisis of healthcare disparities in Kenya**
Victoria Jacinta Muinde (University of Oslo)

**A politics of numbers: Registering citizens for Universal Health Coverage in Kenya**
Ruth J. Prince (University of Oslo)

DISCUSSION

1200-1330: Lunch

#### 13.30-15.00: SESSION FOUR - ABSENT UTOPIAS?
Chair: Ruth Prince (University of Oslo)

**Achieving universal health coverage in rural Zambia: utopian and dystopian visions in the development of a community health worker programme**
James Wintrup (University of Oslo)

‘When People Eat Shit’: Cholera and the Collapse of Zimbabwe’s Public Health Infrastructure
Simukai Chigudu (University of Oxford)

**Absent Utopias in Ghanaian healthcare: Independence, Alma Ata, and the Information Age, 1957-2019**
David Bannister (University of Oslo)

DISCUSSION

Coffee break

#### 15.00-1600: ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION – CURIOUS UTOPIAS
Please note: **Professor Richard Rottenburg**, (WITS Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of the Witwatersrand) will act as discussant. For each session we will also allocate **discussants** from the presenters/participants. Workshop papers will be circulated in advance among presenters/discussants.
Participants

Presenters:

1. Keith Breckenridge
2. Noemi Tousignant
3. Theodoros Rakopoulos
4. Peter Redfield
5. Kevin Donovan
6. Simuaki Chigudu
7. Alice street
8. Ursula Rao
9. James Ferguson
10. Richard Rottenburg
11. Victoria Muinde
12. David Bannister
13. Tom Neumark
14. James Wintrup
15. Ruth Jane Prince
16. Daniel Münster
17. Liz Fouksman

Chairs:

Richard Rottenburg (WITS Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of the Witwatersrand) rottenburg@lost-research-group.org
Knut Nustad (Social Anthropology, University of Oslo) k.g.nustad@sai.uio.no
Ursula Münster (Environmental Humanities, University of Oslo), ursula.munster@ikos.uio.no
Katerini Storeng (SUM – Centre for Development and the Environment, UiO), katerini.storeng@sum.uio.no

Discussants:

Richard Rottenburg (WITS Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of the Witwatersrand) rottenburg@lost-research-group.org
(Discussants for each workshop session are to be allocated from among the workshop presenters)